

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(ROAD HEARING)**

August 31, 2004

5:30 PM

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

Mayor Baines called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Forest.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Porter, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith and Forest

Absent: Aldermen Osborne, O'Neil, Thibault

Mayor Baines advises that the purpose of the road hearing is to hear those wishing to speak in favor of or in opposition to a proposed street layout and proposed street discontinuance petitions, followed by viewing the areas of the petitions and determination of the action to be taken on each petition. Each petition shall be addressed individually, at which time the Public Works Director shall be requested to make a presentation following which those wishing to speak in favor will be heard, followed by those wishing to speak in opposition. Anyone wishing to speak must first step to the nearest microphone when recognized and state his/her name and address in a clear, loud voice for the record. Each person will be given only one opportunity to speak and any questions must be directed to the Chair.

A. *Petition to layout a portion of Mission Avenue*

Mayor Baines requested that Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, make a presentation.

Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, stated Mission Avenue was laid out in a plan dated 1899 but was never opened or improved in a 20 year period after that. Therefore, it was released and discharged in approximately 1919. On March 31, 1987, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted to accept a petition to lay out the street, however, there was no return of layout damages paid so the street did not receive public status. A proper petition has now been submitted for the layout of the highway that is approximately 724 linear feet long. The Highway Department supports this petition and that there are houses that are built along this

section of roadway and that \$110,000 was allocated in the budget to properly construct the roadway. The roadway is anticipated to be a 24' wide travel way with Cape Cod curbs and storm drainage. If everything goes through smoothly, we anticipate going to construction within two or three weeks for the storm drainage and the first of October for the roadway itself.

Mayor Baines called for those wishing to speak in favor.

Larry Poulin, 30 Mission Avenue, Manchester NH stated:

We are all in favor of having this road done. I have been there for 13 years putting up with the dirt and dust. You can't keep your house clean. Kids get a lot of coughs and colds because of the dust. We have been doing a lot of work to get this done and talking to people and I would like to thank Paul Porter for all his help. I am just excited to finally get this road done. I appreciate all of your help and thank you very much.

Sandy Howard, 15 Mission Avenue, Manchester NH stated:

As Mr. Poulin said the dust has been awful. I have been there for 17 years. I have a child with asthma. We have four kids and it has just been horrible. It would just be nice if it could finally get done. Between the repairs on the vehicles and the dust...you have been up there Mr. Mayor and you have seen it. We have potholes and crevices that could swallow a car up. We would really like to have this done and frankly none of us care what the City has to do to get it done.

Mayor Baines called for those wishing to speak in opposition.

There were none.

B. *Petition to discontinue a portion of South Bedford Street*

Mayor Baines requested that Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, make a presentation.

Mr. Thomas stated a request from Mr. Bonardi to discontinue a portion of South Bedford Street abutting his property has been submitted and is shown on a plan in your agenda on Page 4B. This discontinuance is being made feasible due to the construction of the new stadium roadway, which bends in a southeasterly direction away from South Bedford Street. In addition if you remember there was also a previous discontinuance of a portion of South Bedford Street in front of Mr. Blouin's property so the street no longer goes through. It is a dead-end street and this would be a continuation of the portion that was previously discontinued. The Highway Department does support this discontinuance.

Alderman Gatsas asked when was the discontinuance of the first portion of South Bedford Street. What was the date that we did that?

Mr. Thomas answered I don't know off hand but it was I believe last winter. I remember it was dark and cold.

Alderman Gatsas responded I wasn't going that far. I was just asking the question because I think the last time we discontinued this portion of the street I asked why we weren't doing the whole thing and why Mr. Bonardi didn't want the rest of it and everybody said nobody wanted it.

Mr. Thomas replied at that time I am not even sure if Mr. Bonardi was totally aware of what was going to be...I know he was aware that the Blouin's were requesting a discontinuance but I don't really know and I can't speak for him but I don't believe he realized totally what was going on. I think after the discontinuance of the Blouin property took place through one of the Aldermen we met Mr. Bonardi down at his property with the Highway Department and other City departments and we showed Mr. Bonardi the layout of the proposed stadium road and what was discontinued on Mr. Blouin's property. At the end of that meeting he had decided that he would like to seek the discontinuance. We told him that we would draft the description and forward the petition for discontinuance and that is why we are here tonight.

Alderman Gatsas asked who is the other abutter.

Mr. Thomas answered the two abutters are Mr. Bonardi whose property is being discontinued now and the other one was Mr. Blouin who already got a discontinuance. Across the street would be part of the hotel property and the new public roadway that is being built.

Alderman Gatsas stated according to our ordinances isn't that street supposed to be offered to both abutters then. Shouldn't it be offered to the hotel, half of that street?

Mr. Thomas responded no because between the street that is being discontinued is the new public roadway so if it is anybody, you would be asking the City.

Mayor Baines called for those wishing to speak in favor.

There were none.

Mayor Baines called for those wishing to speak in opposition.

There were none.

On motion of Alderman Porter, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to recess the hearing to proceed with viewing the areas of the petitions presented.

Mayor Baines called the meeting back to order at the site of the petition for Mission Avenue.

Item 4A. Petition to layout a portion of Mission Avenue.

Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, outlined the area of the petition and explained the improvements that would be required by the City relating to paving, drainage and curbing.

On motion of Alderman Porter, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted that Mission Avenue be laid out in accordance with the petition upon, and only upon, the receipt of a signed waiver of damages from each landowner over whose land Mission Avenue as set forth in the Petition will pass.

Mayor Baines called a brief recess.

Mayor Baines called the meeting back to order at the site of the petition for South Bedford Street.

Item 4B. Petition to discontinue a portion of South Bedford Street.

Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, described the area of the petition, and the area upon which the new roadway would be built. In response to questions, Mr. Thomas advised that upon discontinuance the City would still own the property described in the petition as the City did hold a deed to the subject area, and that the abutter, if they so desired to purchase the parcel, he would assume would be required to go through the procedures of consideration by the Committee on Lands and Buildings. The Committee could consider whether to recommend sale at a price to be determined or to give the land away as it may wish.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta, it was voted to discontinue a portion of South Bedford Street as petitioned, subject to reserving any and all utility easements.

There being no further to come before the special meeting, on motion of Alderman Sysyn,
duly seconded by Alderman DeVries, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk